

APPARATUS AND METHOD FOR ABLATING TISSUE

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

- 5 The invention provides apparatus and methods for ablating tissue and is particularly useful for creating lesions in the heart wall for the treatment of atrial fibrillation. The apparatus has a suction well which is adhered to the tissue to be ablated. The ablating element is surrounded by the suction well. A fluid is delivered to the ablating element to conduct RF energy to the tissue and/or to cool the tissue.
- 10 The device is preferably formed with a number of cells with each cell having a suction well and at least one ablating element. The device also preferably has a locking mechanism for locking one part of the device to another part of the device to form a closed loop for ablating around structures such as the pulmonary veins.